

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY


(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference PWO051589	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/US2004/039032	International filing date (day/month/year) 19.11.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 19.11.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B65D83/04, B65D5/38, B65D5/50		
Applicant MEADWESTVACO CORPORATION et al.		
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau a total of 6 sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>		
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>		
Date of submission of the demand 19.09.2005	Date of completion of this report. 29.12.2005	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Visentin, M Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2614	



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/US2004/039032

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

Description, Pages

1, 2, 4-12	as originally filed
3, 3a, 3b	received on 18.10.2005 with letter of 18.10.2005

Claims, Numbers

1-19	received on 18.10.2005 with letter of 18.10.2005
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Drawings, Sheets

1-3	as originally filed
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☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/US2004/039032

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-19
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-19
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-19
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

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1. There are in the present application three independent claims, no.1, 10 and 15.
2. With respect to claims 1 and 10 the following objection is raised. This Authority considers that the claims 1 and 10, which have been drafted as separate independent claims, relate effectively to the same subject-matter and differ from each other only with regard to the definition and in respect of the terminology used for the features of the subject-matter for which protection is sought. For ex. it is observed that the two claims 1 and 10 define the same folding lines of the claimed "slide card with an integral tray" with different enumeration (for ex. the first or second fold lines in claim 1 correspond to third and fourth fold lines of the same object in claim 10). This engenders even more confusion in the reader about the matter for which protection is sought. In the end claim 10 appears to be merely a combination of claim 1 and 2 and as it includes all the features of claim 1 it should be properly considered as a dependent claim. The aforementioned claims therefore lack conciseness and as such do not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT (clarity and conciseness).
 - 2.1 The following inconsistency of the group of claims 1-9 is observed. While claim 1 refers to a package all the dependent claims 2 to 9 are addressed to a system. This engenders confusion about the matter for which protection is sought.
3. Document EP-A-1 002 744 (D1) is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art for the matter defined in claims 1, 10 and 15, respectively. It discloses a foldable slide card with an integral tray and a blank from which the subject-matter of the aforementioned claims differs in that:
 - the inner top panel of the slide card has spine support panels (formed by cut lines and fold lines, said spine support panels providing support to the slide card in a set up condition).
- 3.1 The above distinguishing feature is neither known from, nor rendered obvious by, the available prior art and can be considered as involving an inventive step.
4. The subject-matter of claim 1, 10 and 15, therefore, appears to satisfy the criterion set forth in Article 33(2) (3) PCT because it is new in respect of prior art as defined in the regulations (Rule 64(1)-(3) PCT) and it involves an inventive step (Rule 65(1)(2)

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/US2004/039032

PCT).

5. The dependent claims define additional embodiments of the invention.
6. Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the document D1 is not mentioned in the description, nor is this document identified therein.
7. The Independent claim are not in the two-part form in accordance with Rule 6.3(b) PCT, with those features known in combination from the prior art (D1) being placed in the preamble (Rule 6.3(b)(I) PCT) and with the remaining features being included in the characterising part (Rule 6.3(b)(ii) PCT).
8. The features of the claims are not provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).

comprise a means for engaging configured to cooperatively engage the other to create a means for locking, means for releasing, and means for stopping.

According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a system for receiving and securing an item, comprising a slide card with integral tray, said slide card with integral tray comprising a base panel and a spine panel hingedly connected together by a first fold line and an outer top panel hinged to the spine panel along a second fold line, the slide card further comprising an inner top panel hinged along a third fold line adjacent the second fold line, the inner top panel having spine support panels struck from an end of the inner top panel adjacent the spine panel, the system further comprising an outer sleeve comprising top and bottom panels and opposed side panels and forming a tubular structure and an end panel for closing one end of the tubular structure, wherein an open end of the tubular structure is configured to receive the slide card with tray.

Preferably, further comprises an extension panel for forming an article receiving arrangement hinged to an edge of the base panel adjacent the spine panel, wherein the extension panel comprises at least one securing section, a pair of side-wall sections on a top panel section, all separated by adjacent fold lines.

Preferably, the securing section is affixed to said base panel such that said sidewall sections are substantially parallel.

Preferably, the card further comprises a first engaging element.

Preferably, the outer sleeve further comprises a second engaging element configured to releasably connect said first engaging element, said connection defining a means for locking.

Preferably, the outer sleeve further comprises a release element, proximate to said second engaging element, configured to disconnect said means for locking.

Preferably, the outer sleeve further comprises a third engaging element configured to releasably connect said first engaging element, said connection defining a means for stopping.

Preferably, at least one of said side wall sections includes at least one receiving aperture configured to accept at least a portion of an item.

Preferably, the top panel section includes at least one securing element, proximate to said aperture, configured to hold said item.

According to a second aspect of the present invention there is provided a foldable slide card with integral tray formed of contiguous panels, comprising:

an engaging tab defined by a first edge and a distal first fold line;

3a

a base panel defined by said first fold line, an adjacent second edge, a second fold line opposite said second edge, and a third fold line opposite said first fold line;

a spine panel defined by said third fold line and a distal fourth fold line; and

at least one extension panel defined by said second fold line and a distal third edge, said extension panel comprising at least one securing section and a pair of sidewall sections and a top section all separated by adjacent fold lines;

wherein said engaging tab is configured to releasably connect with at least one engaging element associated with an outer sleeve that is configured to receive and releasably lock said folded card with tray, the card further comprises a top panel configured to cover the tray wherein the card further comprises a spine support attached to one of said panels and positioned adjacent to said spine panel.

Preferably, the securing section is affixed to said base panel such that said sidewall sections are substantially parallel.

Preferably, at least one of said sidewall panels includes at least one receiving aperture configured to accept at least a portion of an item.

Preferably, the top section includes at least one securing element, proximate to said aperture, configured to hold said item.

Preferably, the card further comprises data storage.

A third aspect of the present invention there is provided a blank for forming a slide card for use in a system for receiving and securing an item, the blank comprising a base panel hinged to a spine panel along a first edge, said spine being hinged to a first top panel along a second edge opposing said first edge, wherein there further comprises a second top panel hinged to the first top panel along a third edge, the second top panel being folded into face contacting relationship with the first top panel in a set up condition wherein spine support panels are struck from the second top panel, said spine support panels being suitable for co-operating with the spine panel to provide support to the slide card in a set up condition.

Preferably, the second top panel is hinged to the first top panel along the third edge wherein the third edge is adjacent the second edge.

Preferably, the second top panel is hinged to the first top panel along the third edge wherein the third edge is opposed to the second edge.

According to an optional feature of this aspect of the present invention there further comprises an engaging panel hinged to the base panel along a further edge opposed to said first edge.

3b

According to an optional feature of this aspect of the present invention there further comprises an article receiving structure comprising at least one security section, a pair of side wall panels and a top panel all separated by adjacent fold lines.

In exemplary embodiments, a means for engaging includes panels, tabs, catches, ribs, abutments, edges, cutouts, apertures, and like elements, integral to or attached to the card, configured to connect with similar means for engaging elements associated with the outer sleeve, and referred to herein together as a means for locking. A means for releasing includes panels, tabs, ribs, abutments, edges, cutouts, catches, apertures, and like elements, integral to or attached to the outer sleeve, configured to uncouple engaged or locked elements. With a means for locking and a means for releasing, the present invention provides an optional child-resistant feature. A means for stopping includes panels, tabs, ribs, catches, abutments, apertures, edges, cutouts, and like elements, integral to or attached to the card, configured to matingly engage similar elements associated with the outer sleeve. With a means for stopping, the present invention provides an optional spill-resistant feature to prevent the user from pulling the tray completely away from the outer sleeve.

Embodiments include a system and method for holding and securing portable items, such as drug delivery devices, by providing a slide card with tray configuration that holds and secures a device, allows easy access to the device for removal and replacement; and collects and stores the spent devices. Accordingly, embodiments of the present invention provide a system and apparatus that is able to safely ship drug delivery devices for transepidermal, oral, or hypodermic administration, including pre-filled syringes, vials, ampoules, test tubes, patches, inhalers, and parts thereof, and like devices, safely store the unused devices, and safely store the used devices until all can be safely disposed as a unit.

Alternative embodiments include an apparatus and method for providing product instructions, such as compliance directions and patient information literature (PIL). In one embodiment, indicia — such as but not limited to time of day, days of the week, numerical sequence, or dosage amounts — is positioned adjacent to the devices. In another embodiment, information is positioned on or in the inner slide card or outer sleeve in a manner easily visible by the user. One embodiment for securing information comprises a pocket integral to the outer sleeve, while another embodiment comprises a computer disc receiving mount.

Another embodiment of the present invention comprises a slide card with an integral tray and integral engaging tab, wherein the tray is configured to receive and hold at least one

13

CLAIMS

1. A two-piece package for receiving and securing an item, one piece of the package comprising a slide card with an integral tray, comprising a base panel and a spine panel hingedly connected together by a first fold line and an outer top panel hinged to the spine panel along a second fold line, the slide card further comprising an inner top panel hinged along a third fold line adjacent the second fold line, the inner top panel having spine support panels at one end adjacent the spine panel, the other piece of the package system further comprising an outer sleeve comprising top and bottom panels and opposed side panels and forming a tubular structure and an end panel for closing one end of the tubular structure, wherein an open end of the tubular structure is sized and configured to receive the slide card with its integral tray.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein there further comprises an extension panel for forming an article receiving arrangement hinged to an edge of the base panel adjacent the spine panel, wherein the extension panel comprises at least one securing section, a pair of side-wall sections on a top panel section, all separated by adjacent fold lines.
3. The system of claim 2 wherein said securing section is affixed to said base panel such that said sidewall sections are substantially parallel.
4. The system of claim 3 wherein said card further comprises a first engaging element.
5. The system of claim 4 wherein said outer sleeve further comprises a second engaging element configured to releasably connect said first engaging element, said connection defining a means for locking.
6. The system of claim 5 wherein said outer sleeve further comprises a release element, proximate to said second engaging element, configured to disconnect said means for locking.

14

7. The system of claim 4 wherein said outer sleeve further comprises a third engaging element configured to releasably connect said first engaging element, said connection defining a means for stopping.
8. The system of claim 3 wherein at least one of said side wall sections includes at least one receiving aperture configured to accept at least a portion of an item.
9. The system of claim 8 wherein said top panel section includes at least one securing element, proximate to said aperture, configured to hold said item.
10. A foldable slide card with integral tray formed of contiguous panels, comprising:
an engaging tab defined by a first edge and a distal first fold line;
a base panel defined by said first fold line, an adjacent second edge, a second fold line opposite said second edge, and a third fold line opposite said first fold line;
a spine panel defined by said third fold line and a distal fourth fold line; and
at least one extension panel defined by said second fold line and a distal third edge, said extension panel comprising at least one securing section and a pair of sidewall sections and a top section all separated by adjacent fold lines;
wherein said engaging tab is configured to releasably connect with at least one engaging element associated with an outer sleeve that is configured to receive and releasably lock said folded card with tray, the card further comprises a top panel configured to cover the tray wherein the card further comprises a spine support attached to one of said panels and positioned adjacent to said spine panel.
11. The card of claim 10 wherein said securing section is affixed to said base panel such that said sidewall sections are substantially parallel.
12. The card of claim 11 wherein at least one of said sidewall panels includes at least one receiving aperture configured to accept at least a portion of an item.
13. The card of claim 12, wherein said top section includes at least one securing element, proximate to said aperture, configured to hold said item.

15

14. The card of claim 10 wherein said card further comprises data storage.
15. A blank for forming a slide card for use in a system for receiving and securing an item, the blank comprising a base panel hinged to a spine panel along a first edge, said spine being hinged to a first top panel along a second edge opposing said first edge, wherein there further comprises a second top panel hinged to the first top panel along a third edge, the second top panel being folded into face contacting relationship with the first top panel in a set up condition wherein spine support panels are struck from the second top panel, said spine support panels being suitable for co-operating with the spine panel to provide support to the slide card in a set up condition.
16. A blank according to claim 15 wherein the second top panel is hinged to the first top panel along the third edge wherein the third edge is adjacent the second edge.
17. A blank according to claim 15 wherein the second top panel is hinged to the first top panel along the third edge wherein the third edge is opposed to the second edge.
18. A blank according to any of claims 15-17 wherein there further comprises an engaging panel hinged to the base panel along a further edge opposed to said first edge.
19. A blank according to any of claims 15-18 wherein there further comprises an article receiving structure comprising at least one security section, a pair of side wall panels and a top panel all separated by adjacent fold lines.

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